

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MASON COUNTY BOARD

State of IL            )  
                              )s.s.  
County of Mason     )

Proceedings of a meeting of the County Board of Mason County, a meeting begun and held at the courthouse in Havana on Tuesday, May 12, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman James C. Griffin. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: HAROLD BAKER, ELDON GARLISCH, JAMES C. GRIFFIN, GREG IMLAY, DOROTHY KREILING, JAMES MILLER and DALE OSING, seven present, one absent, that one absent being Robert Harris.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:     Garlisch made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Osing. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:     Osing made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as published. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried.

VARIANCE-COLLEEN WOLTERS-KEEPING HORSES IN TOPEKA

The board then considered an application for a Zoning Variance from Colleen Wolters requesting authority to keep horses on residentially zoned lots in the Village of Topeka. Ms. Wolters appeared before the board and stated that the lots in question are essentially rural and undeveloped, with no streets or alleys maintained. She distributed pictures of the site, and noted that she wished to allow the keeping of two horses as 4-H projects. Chairman Griffin inquired about possible regulations of the Village of Topeka prohibiting the keeping of livestock in the village. It was suggested that Ms. Wolters obtain permissions from village officials and then bring the request back to the county board at no further cost to her. It was also noted that the nearest neighbor had objected to the matter, and that the application had been recommended for denial by the Zoning Board of Appeals. After brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION:     Osing made a motion to table the application for variance with leave for the applicant to reinstate at no cost upon approval of the request by the Village of Topeka. Seconded by Kreiling. Motion carried.

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### APPEARANCE: ALEX SNEDEKER RE: FIRE RECOVERY EFFORTS

Mr. Alex Snedeker of Snedeker Risk Management, the county's insurance agent, appeared before the board to report on fire recovery efforts related to the March, 2009 fire at the county highway office in the Town House Plaza. He reported that valuable papers and records had been restored and returned to the department; that the department is up and running in temporary office space at the THE National Bank; they are working toward an actual cash value settlement with the insurance provider; that demolition of the fire site will be contracted for jointly with the other owners of the Town House Plaza.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The Board then considered the consent agenda as follows:

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### REPORTS:

1. April report of County Clerk
2. April report of Treasurer

#### APPOINTMENTS BY CHAIRMAN:

#### **END OF CONSENT AGENDA**

(see board file for matters pertaining to the consent agenda)

MOTION: Kreiling made a motion to approve the consent agenda.  
Seconded by Garlisch. Motion carried.

### REPORT OF ZONING OFFICE

A written report of zoning activity during the month of April was reviewed by the Board.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Imlay reported for the Building & Grounds Committee that the courthouse lighting project was complete, and that work on the jail lighting would commence in June. He also reported that the courthouse roofing project was to commence May 18.

Mr. Garlisch reported for the Licensing Committee that work was continuing with planning for potential mass transit service in the county.

County Engineer Pedigo reported for the Road & Bridge Committee that he would be meeting with Township Road Commissioners regarding the sign grant program which provides for the replacement of most regulatory signs within the county.

Mr. Miller reported for the Planning Committee regarding the proposed Wind Farm Ordinance which was recommended at the April meeting of the board and available for public comment during the period between meetings. It was noted that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources had provided some informal input regarding wind farm

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regulation, and that as a result, the megawatt rating for the ordinance had been altered to include regulation of .5 MW units. The setback from river bluffs had also been deleted due to the ambiguity of the language. The application fee was established at \$20 per foot of height to the blade tip which is the same as neighboring county regulations.

### RESOLUTION 2009-28 WIND FARM ORDINANCE

The board then considered Resolution 2009-28, an Ordinance regulating the establishment of Wind Farms in the unincorporated areas of Mason County. Mr. Miller noted that the Planning Committee had conducted several meetings to review the proposed regulations, and had studied regulations from throughout Illinois and around the country in recommending the Ordinance for approval. It was also noted that the board may amend the Ordinance in the future should new information become available regarding this emerging industry in Illinois. (see board file for resolution)

MOTION: Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-28. Seconded by Kreiling. Motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

The following motion was then made concerning a list of claims paid in vacation presented to the board for review and approval:

MOTION: Osing made a motion to approve the list of claims. Seconded by Miller. Motion carried on unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m. until June 9 at 9:00 a.m.